

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 12158 261446Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 MCT-01 ARA-06 DHA-02 CIAE-00  
DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05  
PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 COME-00 EB-08  
LAB-04 SIL-01 /080 W  
-----262318Z 125103 /14

R 261447Z APR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS  
TO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES  
INFO AMEMBASSY MADRID  
SECSTATE WASHDC 2109

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 12158

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: SP, FR, AR, PINS, SOPH  
SUBJECT: PRESS COVERAGE OF ARGENTINE EXTREMISTS

REF: BUENOS AIRES 2309

1. EMBASSY HAS RECENTLY NOTICED AN INCREASE IN PUBLIC  
CRITICISM OF THE REGIME IN ARGENTINA BY THE FRENCH  
LEFT, BUT HAS NOT SEEN ARTICLES ON THE PLANS OR  
ATTITUDES OF ARGENTINE EXTREMIST GROUPS OR REPORTING  
ON MONTONERO LEADER MARIO FIRMINICH. EXAMPLES INCLUDE:  
A. A PAID 4 PAGE ANNOUNCEMENT IN THE MARCH 26,  
1977 ISSUE OF LE MONDE COMMEMORATED THE FIRST ANNI-  
VERSARY OF THE ACCESSION TO POWER OF THE ARMED FORCES  
IN ARGENTINA WITH A CALL FOR THE RESTITUTION OF CIVIL  
LIBERTIES. THE TEXT CLAIMED THAT ALL SECTORS OF THE  
ARGENTINE POPULACE WERE RESISTING THE MILITARY DICTA-  
TORSHIP AND MADE A RANGE OF DEMANDS, FROM RESTITUTION  
OF LABOR UNIONS AND POLITICAL PARTIES TO AN END TO  
TORTURE. THE NOTICE WAS SIGNED BY A NUMBER OF  
COMMUNIST PERSONALITIES AND INTELLECTUALS FROM FRANCE,  
ITALY, SPAIN, BRITAIN, HOLLAND, BELGIUM, GERMANY,  
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SWITZERLAND AND ISRAEL.  
B. ARGENTINA WAS INCLUDED IN THE ACCUSED COUNTRIES  
DURING A MARCH 27, 1977 "MASS FOR POLITICAL PRISONERS  
IN LATIN AMERICA" CELEBRATED IN A PARIS CHURCH. THE  
MASS WAS HIGHLY POLITICAL, WITH POSTERS DENOUNCING  
MILITARY RULE IN VARIOUS COUNTRIES IN LATIN AMERICA,  
THE MURDER OF PRIESTS IN ARGENTINA, AND FIERY

SERMONS AGAINST LATIN AMERICAN DICTATORSHIPS AND  
POLICE METHODS.

2. OVER THE PAST YEAR, ARGENTINA HAS NOT BEEN A  
MAJOR TARGET OF THE FRENCH LEFT. THEY HAVE CARRIED  
OUT AN EXTENSIVE PRO PROPAGANDA CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE  
REGIMES IN CHILE AND BRAZIL, BUT HAVE GIVEN ARGENTINA  
ONLY PASSING MENTION. WHETHER THE RECENT INCREASE  
IN PUBLIC ATTENTION BEING PAID TO ARGENTINA IS DUE ONLY  
TO THE MARCH 24 ANNIVERSARY OF THE MILITARY TAKEOVER  
OR WHETHER IT SIGNALS AN INCREASED PROPAGANDA  
CAMPAIGN IS AT THIS POINT UNCLEAR.  
HARLAN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, EXTREMISTS  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**TAGS:** PINS, SOPN, SP, FR, AR  
**To:** BUENOS AIRES  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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